

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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P R 080440Z NOV 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7929

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT US CH

SUBJECT: NCNA ON CHANGES IN THE FORD ADMINISTRATION

1. CHINA'S FIRST MEDIA REPORT ON THE ANNOUNCED CHANGES IN THE FORD ADMINISTRATION HIGHLIGHT CRITICAL REACTIONS IN THE US AND ABROAD TO THE SCHLESINGER DISMISSAL AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR US-SOVIET DETENTE.

2. AFTER A GENERAL AND STRAIGHTFORWARD ACCOUNT OF THE PERSONNEL CHANGES ANNOUNCED AT THE PRESIDENT'S NOVEMBER 3 PRESS CONFERENCE, NCNA (NOVEMBER 7) SPECIFICALLY CITES THE PRESIDNET'S EXPRESSED DESIRE TO HAVE HIS OWN TEAM TO CONTINUE THE PURSUIT OF SUCCESSFUL FOERIGN POLICIES. IT NOTES THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE THE DOMINAT ROLE IN FOREIGN POLICY AND THAT THE US WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE DETENTE AND SEEK A SALT II AGREEMENT IT ALSO QUOTES THE PRESIDENT AS SAYING THAT HE HAS " NOT YET HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO FOCUS ON THE REPLACEMENT FOR

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MR BUSH."

3. THE REMAINDER OF THE REPORT IS A REPLAY OF ESSENTIALLY HARSH AND CRITICAL REACTIONS TO THE DISMISSAL OF SCHLESINGER AND ITS IMPLICATION FOR US-SOVIET DETENTE POLICIES. LEADING OFF WITH QUOTATIONS FROM SENATOR JACKSON, NCNA CITES HIS VIEWS THAT THE SCHLESINGER REMOVAL INDICATES THE ADMINISTRATION "CANNOT TOLERATE DIFFERING VIEWS AND HONEST ADVICE ON THE MOST SERIOUS ISSUES OF NATIONAL SECURITY," REPRESENTS A "LOSS TO THE NATION" AND THAT THE SECRETARY'S RELINQUISHMENT OF HIS NCS POST IS JUST A "SOP." AFTER NOTING SENATOR KENNEDY'S COMMENTS THAT THE CHANGES MAY PERHAPS BE BENEFICIAL TO THE CONCLUSION OF A SALT AGREEMENT, THE ARTICLE GOES ON TO NOTE COMMENTARIES AND VIEWS INDICATING THAT THE SOVIETS ARE THE ONES MOST WARMLY WELCOMING THE SCHLESINGER DISMISSAL. THE NCNA CONCERN REGRET, ETC. BY NATO COUNTRY OFFICIALS AND MEDIA ABOUT THE "LOSS OF SCHLESINGER AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR DETENTE AND DEFENSE POLICIES."

4. COMMENT:
EVEN THOUGH PEKING AVOIDED DIRECT COMMENTARY OF ITS OWN, THIS EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF REACTION TO A DOMESTIC US POLITICAL EVENT IS UNUSUAL AND INDICATIVE OF THE DEGREE OF PRC CONCERN.
CROSS

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